The City of Saint John

SAINT JOHN

News Release

For Immediate Release
Friday, June 6, 2008

(Due to unexpected delays in translation, the French version of the release will be posted on www.saintjohn.ca as soon as it becomes available. A cause d'un retard inattendu, la version française sera disponible dès que possible au site web www.saintjohn.ca)

The City of Saint John adds four "smart cars" to fleet

The City of Saint John has furthered its commitment to 'Think Green' by acquiring four smart cars, purchased as part of the scheduled replacement of its fleet. In addition to the new smart cars, the fleet also contains two Toyota Camry Hybrid vehicles the City purchased in 2007 and another smart car that has been in use since early 2008.

"Our 'Think Green' philosophy is one of many ways the City continues to work toward reducing our impact on the environment," said Bob Russell, the City's Manager of Fleet Administration. "As set out in the City's Vision 2015, we recognize our inherent responsibility as an organization to embrace a shared commitment to the environment. By using these vehicles during day-to-day operations, we can continue to work toward a sustainable community and encourage others to make environmentally responsible choices."

Russell recently attended the 3rd Annual Green Fleet Expo, which was co-hosted by the City of Toronto and the City of Hamilton. Approximately 175 government and private sector participants from Southern Ontario, including 20 Canadian Municipal Fleet Managers, attended this day-long event. This included automotive industry presentations and an afternoon Ride-n-Drive exhibit of the latest "green" (i.e. gas/electric hybrid, hydrogen cell powered, and electric) sedans, light & heavy duty trucks, and public transportation buses. Many of Canada's leading edge automotive manufacturers provided alternative fuel product displays as well.

The City of Saint John also follows a non-idling policy for all Municipal vehicles, many of which use diesel fuel. This administrative policy continues to support the City's efforts to reduce its environmental impact, and will also result in monetary savings for the City during a time when both gas and diesel prices continue to rise.

The new smart cars and hybrid vehicles are currently being used by staff in Municipal Operations and Saint John Water, and Fleet Services will continue to pursue other opportunities to 'Think Green'.

Smart cars are 1 L/3 cylinder engines rated at 5.9 L/100 km, or 48 miles/gallon. Some of the City's older four cylinder sedans, by comparison, are 2.3 L/4 cylinder vehicles rated at 10.3 L/100km or 27miles/gallon. The two hybrid sedans the City owns are 2.4 litre/4 cylinder vehicles rated at 5.7 L/100km or 71 miles/gallon.

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The City of Saint John is dedicated in its commitment to environmental stewardship. The City was recently awarded a 2008 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)-CH2M HILL Sustainable Community Award in the *Energy* category for The City of Saint John Municipal Energy Efficiency Program (MEEP). The City adopted MEEP as its environmental and fiscal code in 1996, pre-empting Kyoto. The implementation followed the first comprehensive annual analysis of energy consumption and related costs of municipal operations. The program has been quietly working for 10 years to meet its main objective: reduce municipal operations energy consumption by 25% by 2011.

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